

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 /063 W

-----201004Z 099524 /14

R 200837Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7947

INFO COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE REPORT ON KOREAN WITHDRAWALS

REF: TOKYO 5266

SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO YOMIURI, CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE REPORT MADE PUBLIC MAY 18TH ADVOCATES WITHDRAWAL OF SECOND DIVISION OVER THREE YEAR PERIOD AND IMPLIES THAT PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA GAVE "OK" TO WITHDRAWAL IN MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN WOLFF. FONOFF SOURCES CITED AS DENYING THIS. YOMIURI SPECULATES THAT REPORT REFLECTS ADMINISTRATION THINKING. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO YOMIURI STORY DATELINED MAY 18 FROM WASHINGTON, CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE REPORT RELEASED THAT DAY CONCLUDED THAT THERE WAS "NO LONGER ANY NEED FOR U.S. TO STATION GROUND FORCES IN KOREA FOR ITS DEFENSE." ACCORDING TO YOMIURI, REPORT FOCUSED ON "OPTION" INVOLVING WITHDRAWAL OF SECOND DIVISION OVER THREE YEAR PERIOD, ONE THIRD EACH YEAR. STORY SPECULATED THAT

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REPORT REFLECTED ADMINISTRATION THINKING SINCE IT HAD BEEN PREPARED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND DEFENSE.

2. STORY HEADLINE CLAIMS THAT PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA GAVE "OK" TO U.S. WITHDRAWAL PLAN. THIS APPARENTLY BASED ON REPORTED REMARKS IN PREFACE OF REPORT BY HOUSE ASIA AND PACIFIC SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN LESTER WOLFF REFERRING TO HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER

AND POINTING TO "FACT" THAT GOJ DEFENSE WHITE PAPER CONCLUDED THERE WAS "NO NEED FOR U.S. GROUND FORCES IF PROPER AIR DEFENSE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ARMAMENTS ARE GUARANTEED FOR ROK." ACCORDING TO YOMIURI, FONOFF SOURCES, ASKED TO COMMENT, DENIED GOJ EXPRESSED APPROVAL OF GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE BACKGROUND ON REPORT AND DETAILS OF ANY PORTIONS REFERRING TO CHAIRMAN WOLFF'S MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER, WHICH WAS REPORTED IN FULL BY REFTEL.
SHOESMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP REDUCTIONS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 2425703
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